

MINUTES OF THE HIGHWAY COMMISSION MEETING
March 4, 2015

The Williamson County Highway Commission met on Wednesday, March 4, 2015 at 8:30 a.m. at the Williamson County Highway Department facility at 302 Beasley Drive in Franklin, TN. Commission members present: County Mayor and Highway Commission Chairman, Rogers Anderson; Commissioners Stan Tyson, Wayne Davis, Charlie Bennett, and Dick Fowlkes.

Also present were: Eddie Hood, Highway Superintendent; Greg Boll, Elaine Vasquez, Randy Hickman, Brandon Wright, Highway Department; Joe Horne, Community Development Director; William Andrews, Engineering; Bobby Cook, County Attorney, Buerger, Moseley, & Carson; Leslie Mitchell, Purchasing Agent, and other interested individuals.

Chair Anderson called the meeting to order at approximately 8:30 a.m. and asked for the approval of the minutes of the February 4, 2015 Highway Commission meeting. Commissioner Tyson moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Davis. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

Special Announcements: Chairman Anderson announced his appreciation to Superintendent Hood and his staff for their hard work keeping the roads clear in the unincorporated areas of the County during the recent ice storm. Superintendent Hood stated that approximately 3000 tons of road salt was used in the event.

Citizens Communications: Bob Murphy of RPM Transportation Consultants introduced himself and stated that he conducted a traffic study on Temple Road in 2011, and would answer any questions during the Public Hearing on the proposed re-striping of Temple Road.

Elections and Appointments: There were no Elections and Appointments.

OLD BUSINESS: There was no Old Business.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Public Hearing on the proposed re-striping of four lane Temple Road. (Commissioner Tyson)(CC District 9, Kaestner/Clark)

Chairman Anderson started the Public Hearing by stating that today's forum is for informational purposes, and no action will be taken today.

Superintendent Hood stated that for approximately five years, there has been an interest among the homeowners in Temple Hills to re-stripe the four lane section of Temple Road and change it from four lanes to two lanes. He explained that this would create one lane in and one lane out of the subdivision, and would accommodate a pedestrian lane and a bicycle lane. He went on to say that a traffic study was conducted by RPM Transportation Consultants, and that the re-striping could be done at the time Temple Road is scheduled to be repaved. He stated that he anticipates Temple Road to be repaved in the spring of 2016.

Commissioner Tyson stated that in his opinion, a formal request from the Temple Hills Homeowners Association Board that shows a majority approval and endorsement of the petition would be necessary in order for the Highway Commission to grant permission for the proposed re-striping. He went on to say that no such formal request has been received.

County Attorney Cook stated that a formal request is not a legal requirement however the Homeowners Association Board will need to provide minutes or a resolution showing majority approval of the proposed re-striping. He asked if there was a representative from the Homeowners Association Board in attendance who could provide him with the minutes via e-mail.

Paul Cole of 509 Chevron Green approached the podium and identified himself as the previous president of the Homeowners Association when the process began some five years ago. He stated that the minutes of the Board showing approval to request action by the Highway Commission are available.

Bob Murphy of RPM Transportation Consultants approached the podium and stated that a study was conducted along the four lane section of Temple Road to gather information based on traffic counts, speed, and operation of intersections to try and determine the operational effectiveness of the road if it were to be changed from four lanes to two lanes. He stated that he looked at the current conditions on the road as well as projected conditions in the future, and looked into options for striping that would work best under the conditions. He also stated that the traffic counts observed were low enough that one travel lane will effectively handle the traffic.

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He added that the striping could consist of a five foot buffer zone between the travel lane, and a five foot bike lane with a five foot pedestrian lane next to the bike lane. He stated that the study was conducted in 2011 and the traffic count at that time was 4400 vehicles per day on the four lane section, and 2900 vehicles per day on the two lane section. He stated that 10,000 vehicles per day can travel safely on Temple Road utilizing two travel lanes with the striping as proposed, and added that he does not believe the study needs to be conducted again. He added that a survey was conducted by the Homeowners Association which concluded that a majority of residents are in favor of the proposal. Superintendent Hood added that he and Chad Collier have a copy of the study. Superintendent Hood stated that he has no problem with the proposed plan as long as the Homeowners Association has documentation showing that the majority of the residents are in favor of it. Randy Carroll of Collier Engineering stated that he has also seen the study and does not necessarily dispute the analysis and conclusions.

Ann Winterland of 167 Baltusrol Road stated that she is opposed to the plan for safety reasons. She stated that she believes there should be a barrier between the traffic lane and bike/pedestrian lanes.

John Rochford, developer of Temple Hills, stated that in regards to safety, there will be a five foot buffer zone between the travel lane and the pedestrian/bike lanes. He stated that there are significantly fewer homes in the back section of Temple Hills, and believes that safety will not be an issue. He added that there is a 90% approval of the plan among the residents who believe the plan will promote a healthier lifestyle.

Gina Morrissey Miller, 155 Temple Crest Trail, stated that she believes the current four lanes of traffic facilitate speed, and is in favor of the plan for safety reasons.

Jim O'Dowd of North Berwick Lane stated that currently there are many cyclists and pedestrians on the road with no uniformity to their travel patterns, and believes the plan would enhance safety by providing uniform lanes for them to adhere to.

Bill Hinton stated that he owns property on Temple Road just south of Sneed Road. He stated that traffic gets very heavy on Temple Road, and runs from 40 to 50 miles per hour, particularly after school is dismissed. He stated that he is in favor of the project.

Gene Simmons stated that he lives on Temple Road by the golf course, and added that he is a current board member. He suggested putting a curb along the roadway to separate the traffic lane and bike/pedestrian lanes. He stated that he would like the Homeowners Association to take a fresh look at this plan.

Al Harmon of 257 St. Andrews Drive stated that he would like to see signage and barriers, and stated that traffic counts are significantly higher than in 2011 when the traffic study was conducted.

Libby Godbold of Whitley Court stated that she is a past member of the Board of Directors of the Homeowners Association of Temple Hills. She stated that concerns of speeding and safety on Temple Road have been an issue since the 1990's. Ms. Godbold stated that she, as a volunteer at the time, sent Commissioner Tyson a letter outlining the idea of re-striping Temple Road in April of 2009. She stated that she was told to send a formal letter to the Highway Commission Chairman, Rogers Anderson, stating that the Homeowners Association and most residents were in favor of a proposed re-striping plan to improve safety on the four lane section of Temple Road. She went on to say that a traffic study was conducted by RPM Transportation Consultants, was submitted to the County, and was also placed on the Homeowners Association website for the homeowners to read. She reported that a formal survey of the residents was done after that, and stated that County Attorney Cook became the contact person for the Highway Commission working with the president of the Homeowners Association, who represented the neighborhood. She went on to say that the past County Commissioners were made aware of the proposed plan as well as the new County Commissioners. All County Commissioners, past and present, supported the proposed plan as long as the majority of residents were also in support of it. The official survey ballots were tallied by an outside accounting firm and were delivered to County Attorney Cook to be reviewed and returned. The official survey results submitted to the County showed 87% in favor of the project and 13% against. The Homeowners Association Board voted to accept the results of the survey and contacted County Attorney Cook, who told them everything is in order to approach the Highway Commission.

Chairman Anderson brought the Public Hearing section of the meeting to a close and stated that this issue will be on the Highway Commission agenda on April 1, 2015 in the form of a Resolution, and will go before the County Commission in May.

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2. **Request from Macy Brown of the I Am Second Organization, for approval to utilize Sawyer Bend Road and Moran Road to conduct a fund raising 5k and 10k marathon to benefit I Am Second's outreach efforts in the Nashville area on September 12, 2015. (Commissioner Tyson)(CC District 8, Walton/Sturgeon)(CC District 9, Kaestner/Clark)** Ms. Brown stated that she spoke with County Attorney Cook and is aware that she needs to provide a Certificate of Insurance and a Letter of Indemnification. She also stated that a private firm has been hired to control traffic for the event. Superintendent Hood recommended approval of the utilization of Sawyer Bend Road and Moran Road for the I Am Second 5k and 10k marathon to be held on September 12, 2015. Commissioner Tyson moved for approval of Ms. Brown's request. It was seconded by Commissioner Davis and passed unanimously 5-0.

3. **Request from Brent Barrett on behalf of the 1st annual Armed Forces Day 8k Run For Veterans, for approval to utilize a portion of West Harpeth Road on May 16, 2015 from 8:00 – 9:30 a.m. (Commissioner Tyson)(CC District 9, Kaestner/Clark)** Superintendent Hood recommended approval of the utilization of a portion of West Harpeth Road provided the indemnification and insurance conditions are met. Commissioner Tyson moved for approval of Mr. Barrett's request. It was seconded by Commissioner Davis and passed unanimously 5-0.

4. **Resolution 3-15-1 RESOLUTION ACCEPTING HAWKS LANDING DRIVE, BLACK HAWK SUBDIVISION, SECTION THREE AS A PART OF THE COUNTY ROAD SYSTEM FOR MAINTENANCE BY THE COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT, LOCATED OFF HIGHWAY 96 EAST. (Commissioner Fowlkes)(CC District 5, Little/Green)** Superintendent Hood and Staff recommend approval of Resolution 3-15-1. Commissioner Fowlkes moved for approval, seconded by Commissioner Davis. The motion passed unanimously 5-0.

5. **Resolution 3-15-2 RESOLUTION ACCEPTING REDTAIL HAWK COURT AND PRAIRIE FALCON DRIVE, BLACK HAWK SUBDIVISION, SECTION TWO AS A PART OF THE COUNTY ROAD SYSTEM FOR MAINTENANCE BY THE COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT, LOCATED OFF HIGHWAY 96 EAST. (Commissioner Fowlkes)(CC District 5, Little/Green)** Superintendent Hood and Staff recommend approval of Resolution 3-15-2. Commissioner Fowlkes moved for approval, seconded by Commissioner Tyson. The motion passed unanimously 5-0.

6. **Resolution 3-15-3 RESOLUTION ACCEPTING HAWKS LANDING DRIVE, BLACK HAWK SUBDIVISION, SECTION FOUR AS A PART OF THE COUNTY ROAD SYSTEM FOR MAINTENANCE BY THE COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT, LOCATED OFF HIGHWAY 96 EAST. (Commissioner Fowlkes)(CC District 5, Little/Green)** Superintendent Hood and Staff recommend approval of Resolution 3-15-3. Commissioner Fowlkes moved for approval, seconded by Commissioner Tyson. The motion passed unanimously 5-0.

7. **Resolution 3-15-4 RESOLUTION ACCEPTING SUNDOWN CIRCLE AND SUNSET RIDGE DRIVE, THE 2ND ADDITIONS TO LEGENDS RIDGE SUBDIVISION, AS A PART OF THE COUNTY ROAD SYSTEM FOR MAINTENANCE BY THE COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT, LOCATED OFF BERRY'S CHAPEL ROAD. (Commissioner Fowlkes)(CC District 8, Walton/Sturgeon)** Superintendent Hood and Staff recommend approval of Resolution 3-15-4. Commissioner Fowlkes moved for approval, seconded by Commissioner Tyson. The motion passed unanimously 5-0.

8. **Resolution 3-15-12 RESOLUTION AMENDING THE 2014-2015 HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT BUDGET AND APPROPRIATING UP TO \$175,000 FOR REPLENISHMENT OF ROAD SALT – REVENUES TO COME FROM UNAPPROPRIATED HIGHWAY FUND BALANCE. (All)** Superintendent Hood stated that in the recent ice storm approximately 3000 tons of road salt was used, and that the purpose of this resolution is to replenish the supply. Commissioner Bennett moved for approval of Resolution 3-15-12. It was seconded by Commissioner Tyson, and passed unanimously 5-0.

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9. **Resolution 3-15-13 RESOLUTION DIRECTING REVENUE DESIGNATED FOR ROAD PURPOSES THAT IS COLLECTED FROM THE WILLIAMSON COUNTY BUSINESS TAX THAT EXCEED \$2,830,000 AND FUNDS COLLECTED FROM THE WILLIAMSON COUNTY WHEEL TAX THAT EXCEED \$4,000,000 FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2014-15 BE REDESIGNATED TO THE GENERAL FUND. (All)** Mr. Boll stated that this Resolution is brought up each year to maintain the five year average. Commissioner Tyson moved for approval of Resolution 3-15-13, seconded by Commissioner Davis. The motion passed unanimously 5-0.

10. **Williamson County Highway Department Budget Review for Fiscal Year 2015 – 2016. (Greg Boll)** Superintendent Hood stated that the Budget for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 is within the guidelines set forth by the Budget Committee. Commissioner Tyson moved for approval of the Highway Department Budget for Fiscal Year 2015-2016. It was seconded by Commissioner Davis and passed unanimously 5-0.

Highway Commission District Reports:

Commissioner Fowlkes: He was not aware of any road issues to report.

Commissioner Bennett: He was not aware of any road issues to report.

Commissioner Tyson: Commissioner Tyson expressed his appreciation for the excellent job of clearing the County roads of ice and snow.

Commissioner Davis: Commissioner Davis expressed his appreciation for the excellent job of clearing the County roads of snow and ice.

Highway Superintendent Report: Superintendent Hood referenced the February 2015 Activity Report, and stated that his staff worked hard and did an outstanding job of clearing the County roads in the recent ice storm. He stated that he has ample road salt on hand in the event of more inclement weather.

Highway Chairman Report: Chairman Anderson stated that he is pleased with the finished Old Natchez Trace Road project, and stated that he has received many positive comments about it.

Legal Issues: County Attorney Cook had no legal issues to present.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:25 a.m.

/ev



Rogers C. Anderson

Chairman and County Mayor